

January 28, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

During my tenure as Assistant Director of Admissions at North Carolina State University, I have witnessed many technological innovations and trends. Most of these have involved the use of a computer, and many involved Microsoft products.

While I cannot say with exact certainty why the federal government pursued an antitrust lawsuit against Microsoft, I can tell you that it has had a devastating impact on technological innovation while it has transpired. Before the lawsuit, tech companies were lauded for focusing on research and development at the exclusion of politics. In fact, few of the leading tech firms employed anyone to conduct government relations programs.

Microsoft learned quickly that its exclusive focus on making life more efficient for everyone had made its competitors struggle for market share. The competitors retaliated by getting into the political game. The lawsuit followed. Even today, Microsoft's competitors are lobbying to continue the lawsuit endlessly.

We should support the federal government and Microsoft in their decision to settle the case. I urge Judge Kollar-Kotelly to approve the proposed settlement of the lawsuit. Let's allow research and development to march ahead.

Sincerely,

Jill Green
Jill Green